

1975

Board of Trustees Executive Committee July 2, 1975

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

July 2, 1975
Portland, Maine

Executive Committee

PRESENT: Chairman James H. Page, Vice Chairman Stanley J. Evans, John C. Donovan, Susan R. Kominsky and Robert R. Masterton.
Staff: Chancellor Designate Patrick E. McCarthy.

Chairman Page called the meeting to order.

Compensation. The Committee discussed compensation agreements with Mr. McCarthy. The effective date of the appointment is August 1, 1975. Until that time, the Chancellor Designate will serve as a consultant to the Board of Trustees compensated on a per diem basis of \$130.00 each work day ending July 31, 1975. The Chancellor's salary will be \$42,000 a year, \$6,000 annual housing allowance, the use of a car, a reportable expense account, moving expenses and employee benefits.

Staff. There was agreement that staff makeup is the Chancellor's prerogative. Mr. McCarthy stated that he will do a total review including job descriptions, location of staff in the context of problems. He indicated that this would be a very gradual process and that staff will be considered flexible with the intention of matching people to jobs should changes be necessary. Existing staff will be asked to apply for created positions should such new positions be desirable. Staff size should remain about the same according to the Chancellor Designate, but there should be increased use of campus expertise.

Legislative and Executive Contacts. There was agreement that the Chancellor should meet with the Governor soon. Mr. McCarthy suggested, and there was consensus, that he should meet with legislators in their home areas during the legislative recess in conjunction with campus visits and with the assistance of area Trustees.

Press, Public and University Relations. Consensus was that public relations activities on campuses shall be coordinated through the Chancellor's Office for purposes of efficiency, that the Chancellor shall be the guide in formulating the University image. Consideration should be given to enlarging the central University relations staff, and consideration should be given to setting the climate for a merged alumni. Short range goals for the Chancellor should include press interviews, meetings with the Governor and legislators and a meeting with an advisory group using the advisory Search Committee to form the nucleus, and improvement of communications between internal constituent groups, the Chancellor and Trustees.

Biennial Budget. There was agreement that the Board staff should formulate a plan before the October deadline to be considered with the Presidents' Priorities Planning Project alternative policy recommendations. These plans for the second year of the biennium shall include statewide priorities which are educationally sound.

Personnel Compensation. The Executive Committee agreed that faculty salaries were a top priority and that a small committee of approximately seven representatives of business and industry in Maine could usefully advise the Board on the seriousness of salary deficiencies and steps for addressing this problem. The Committee felt that comparability with other states should be used as a guideline and that any suggested redress should be offered while considering the economic situation of the State of Maine. It was agreed that such outside advice would help to dispel any possible charge of self-interest.

Austerity. The Committee and Chancellor Designate addressed many steps which should be investigated should it be necessary to offset increased costs in austere economic times. A number of measures included the possibility of closing down for the two coldest months, January and February; sixteen hour work days and/or four day weeks.

Education and Service. The Executive Committee and Chancellor Designate reaffirmed the first priority for the University as undergraduate education.

The Committee also discussed high priority status for community service functions of the University. The Committee and Chancellor Designate expressed the belief that the socio-economic potential for Maine citizens of the various University resources was of such significance that every effort should be made to increase availability to the general public.

Outreach. There was agreement that consideration should be given to Continuing Education as a function of the Central Administration.

Reporting Finances. There was agreement that a new way must be developed to report to Trustees on financial and budgetary matters. The Committee expressed a desire for crisp, accurate and easily readable communications with respect to financial and budgetary matters.

Institute for Health Science. Discussion led to consensus that while the medical school concept should not be abandoned, the Institute for Health Sciences must be strengthened by Trustee policy and changes made in the charge to the Institute to clarify its authority as an immediate goal. The Executive Committee asked the Chancellor Designate to meet with Dr. Coon to discuss specific solutions to the problems of the Institute for Health Science Education.

Augusta Visibility. The need for a public information office and Chancellor visibility in Augusta was reaffirmed. CO/UWS will be located at Bangor and any consideration of the costs and benefits advantages and disadvantages of a later move will await study in the future.

Adjournment.

Margaret R. Dexter
Clerk, Board of Trustees